

ANNEXURE NO. 20

[*Vide* Unstarred Question No. 1418(c), answered on 4th August, 2000.]

DETAILS OF MEASURES ADOPTED BY GOVERNMENT TO CONSERVE AND PROTECT WILDLIFE TOGETHER WITH THE LIST OF ANIMALS THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO BE EXTINCT OR ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION.

The Government of India has taken following steps to protect and conserve wildlife in the country :

Providing legal protection against hunting and commercial exploitation of wild animals under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Setting up of Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment and Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife. Similar Committees have been established and State level and District level in various States.

Authorised Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to apprehend offenders and launch prosecution in wildlife offences.

Providing assistance to State Government for strengthening the infrastructure through involvement of Armed Squads and Strike Forces drawn out of paramilitary forces and State Armed Constabulary.

Periodic meetings with State Government for effective monitoring of protection measures, undertaken.

Strengthening the infrastructure under the Central Government and to ensure its presence in all sensitive areas.

Providing funds to State Governments for coservancy works.

The list of wild animal species that are supposed to be extinct or on the verge of extinction as reported by Zoological Survey of India :

Sl. No.	Animals
1.	Cheetah
2.	Lesser One-horned Rhinoceros
3.	Pink Headed Duck
4.	Mountain Quail
5.	Jerdon's Courser
6.	Forest Owlet
7.	Himalayan Newt
8.	Malabar Tree Toad
9.	Garo Hills Tree Toad

N.B.:—1. Jerdon's Courser has been reported from Andhra Pradesh.

2. Jorepokhri Sanctuary in Darjeeling District of West Bengal has been exclusively established for the conservation of Himalayan Newt.